

## JOHN HARDING RAPS MRS. YOUNG AND MARGARET HALEY RAPS HARDING

Miss Margaret Haley threw the meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor into an uproar yesterday when she accused John C. Harding, former school board member, of being under the influence of Andy Lawrence.

This denouncement of Harding came after five hours of bitter fighting between Harding and his supporters on one side and Margaret Haley, Mrs. Raymond Robins and their followers on the other. Charges were hurled by each side.

The fight started when Mrs. Raymond Robins presented the following resolution for indorsement:

"Whereas, On Dec. 10, 1913, a member of the Association of Commerce was elected superintendent of the public schools of Chicago.

"Whereas, The Association of Commerce indorsed, and urged the passage of the Cooley vocational education bill, to which organized labor is opposed.

"Whereas, By the said election this member of the Association of Commerce has displaced an educator of world-wide reputation, Mrs. Ella Flagg Young.

"Whereas, Mrs. Young has earned the confidence of the workingmen and women of Chicago by her determined opposition to the commercialization of the public schools, as was shown recently by her work against the Cooley vocational education bill.

"Resolved, That the Chicago Federation of Labor hereby expresses its deep appreciation of the splendid services of Mrs. Ella Flagg Young in protecting our children from the greed of 'big business.'

"Resolved, That we demand the restoration of Mrs. Young as superintendent of the Chicago public schools and call upon Mayor Harrison to bring it about.

"Resolved, That the Chicago Federation of Labor reaffirms its demand for an elected board of education with the right of recall.

"Resolved, That the secretary of the Federation of Labor be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to Mayor Carter H. Harrison."

In his defense, Harding assailed Mrs. Young as a "thinking machine, without a heart or conscience," "a witch," and accused her of possessing a "swelled head."

He said the spelling book affair came up because he refused to sanction the scab book put out by the American Book Company and wanted a book printed by union men instead. It was because Mrs. Young refused to approve the union book, he asserted, that he was against her. He honestly admitted that the scheme to oust Mrs. Young was his.

When Mrs. Robins offered her resolution backing Mrs. Young, a supporter of Harding leaped to his feet and offered as an amendment the resolution passed by the Allied Printing Trades Council, indorsing Hard-

ing. This was immediately seconded and the battle was on.

Harding was the first speaker. He put up a great fight because he was fighting against having a resolution passed by union men that would have been a blow in the face to him.

He accused Mrs. Young and Carter Harrison of playing politics. He told how when he was appointed in 1911, the mayor first adroitly said it would be quite necessary for him to sign a resignation, not dated, before he could be appointed. And then after getting that the mayor told him that he would keep his hands off the school board.

"If he wasn't playing politics why